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April 18, 2001 LB 598

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR THOMPSON: The whole package is not going to pass. It's not going to happen as a total package. It was introduced as four different bills for our consideration. We shouldn't make this decision this year, with the problems that are out there. Let's concentrate, instead, on the recommendations from the Appropriations Committee, and the recommendations from the Health and Human Services Committee on services. Let's defer the decision on the secure facility, which has been talked about this...this session, which people have been offered rides for tours of the Hastings facility, and the facility in Omaha. All that's going on, but that's not going to pass this year. We don't have to do this this year. Let's let this group of the people appointed by the Governor to serve on the Juvenile Detention, Diversion, and Probation Task Force...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...take on this issue and study it.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Thompson. Senator Suttle, on the Thompson amendment.

SENATOR SUTTLE: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Senator...thank you, Senator Pedersen, for the information that you provided. And concerning these bills, and if we like to do things cheaply, and we do in this state, I think, especially when it deals with children, delaying this would save us money. Delaying this would save us money. never known this body not to want to save money, especially when it comes to kids. So let's do this study, let's let the people who know about juvenile justice tell us what's the best way to do it, and not let a...an administration who's telling us that this is the only way to do it is my way or the highway, I don't know that that is the thing that we should be doing. Appropriations Committee has already said we're not going to give you this much money, even though it's in your budget. Our budget must be different than the Governor's budget. anxiously await the report out from the Appropriations Committee. So if this is going to save us money, this